



COMMERCIAL FISHING LICENSE UPDATE

FEBRUARY 2008

2008-2009 Commercial Fishing License Information

Your 2007-2008 Commercial Fishing License, Commercial Boat Registration and other entitlements expire March 31, 2008. Applications to renew your 2008-2009 Commercial Fishing License, Commercial Boat Registration and other commercial fishing permits were mailed to you in separate envelopes.

Digest of Commercial Fishing Laws

The 2008 Digest of California Commercial Fish Laws and Licensing Requirements (Digest) is available at Department of Fish and Game (Department) offices or on our web site at www.dfg.ca.gov/licensing/commercial/commercialdigest.html.

Important Renewal Reminders

When renewing your commercial fishing license and permits, please remember to:

- Review the preprinted information on your application and make any necessary changes or corrections.
- Submit all the required applications so your permits can be issued.
- Sign and date your application(s).
- Complete the enclosed worksheet and return it with your application(s).
- Enclose your check or money order or if paying by credit card, sign the worksheet and include the expiration date of the credit card and your daytime telephone number. Credit cards are accepted at all Department offices.
- Mail your application(s) early if you plan to fish April 1. Fish and Game Code (FGC) Section 7857(d) requires that you have your Commercial Fishing License and any applicable permit in possession when fishing. Under FGC Section 7880, a valid Commercial Boat Registration must be on board all vessels used in connection with commercial fishing operations.
- Allow 15 business days for processing your license and permit applications.

Do We Have Your Correct Address?

FGC Section 7857(m) requires that any person who holds a valid commercial fishing license, permit, registration, or other entitlement must notify the Department of their old and new addresses within three months of when they move or acquire a new address.

Reporting the Sale, Loss or Destruction of Commercial Fishing Vessels

FGC Section 7881 requires the owner of a commercial fishing vessel to notify the Department immediately of the loss, destruction or sale of their vessel. Proof of the loss or destruction must be provided. Complete and mail the Change of Address/Ownership or Vessel Loss form to the Department's License and Revenue Branch.

Note: To All Commercial Fishing Boat Owners

All change of ownerships of a commercial fishing vessel must be sent to the Department's License and Revenue Branch in Sacramento for the 2008-2009 permit year. All vessels that are owned under a business name must provide copies of the Articles of Incorporation, Amendments, Mergers, Dissolutions or Statement of Officers before a 2008-2009 Commercial Boat Registration will be issued.

Salmon Stamp Fee

Based on the 2007 commercial salmon harvest, the fee for a 2008-2009 Commercial Fishing Salmon Stamp, and John Doe Commercial Fishing Salmon Stamp will be \$85.



Identification Required When Commercially Fishing

FGC Section 7852.27 was amended to: All times when engaged in activity for which a commercial fishing license is required, the licensee shall have in his or her possession, a valid driver's license or identification card issued by DMV or by the entity issuing driver's licenses from the licensee's state. A current passport may be used in lieu of a valid driver's license or identification card by a holder of a valid non-resident commercial fishing license.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES AND NOTICES FOR 2008



Change to Late Fees for Limited Entry Commercial Fishing Permits

FGC Section 7852.2 was amended and changed the late fee for the following permits and endorsements: Deeper Nearshore Fishery, Drift Gill Net, Dungeness Crab Vessel, Herring, Lobster Operator, Market Squid Vessel, Nearshore Fishery, Nearshore Fishery Trap Endorsement, Nearshore Fishery Bycatch, Northern Pink Shrimp Trawl, Salmon Vessel, Sea Cucumber, Spot Prawn Trap (Tier 1, 2, & 3), Southern Rock Crab, and Sea Urchin Diving Permits.

The Department shall assess a late fee for any renewal application received after the deadline according to the following schedule:

- One to 30 days after the deadline, a fee of \$125.
- 31 to 60 days after the deadline, a fee of \$250
- 61 days to March 31, 2009, a fee of \$500.

The Department shall deny applications received or postmarked after March 31, 2009.

The renewal deadlines for limited entry and restricted access commercial fishing permits are printed on the back of this notice.



Salmon Vessel Permit Renewal Deadline

FGC Section 8235, was amended to require Salmon Vessel Permittees to renew their permits on or before April 30 each year. Applications received at a Department office or postmarked after the April 30 deadline will be assessed a late fee subject to FGC Section 7852.2.

Renewing Salmon Vessel Permits

Vessel owners or their agents less than 70 years of age as of April 1, 2008, are required to purchase a 2008-2009 Commercial Fishing License, and a 2008-2009 Commercial Fishing Salmon Stamp, even if: the owner does not intend to commercially fish for any species during the 2008-2009 license year; or, if there is a restricted commercial salmon fishing season. In addition, a 2008-2009 Commercial Boat Registration must be purchased for the qualified vessel.

Only vessel owners 70 years of age or older as of April 1, 2008, are exempt from obtaining a Commercial Fishing Salmon Stamp. A salmon vessel owner

who designates an agent 70 years of age or older must still purchase a Commercial Fishing License and Commercial Fishing Salmon Stamp for the owner or the agent before a Salmon Vessel Permit can be issued unless the vessel owner is also 70 years of age or older as of April 1, 2008.

Deadline to Renew 2007-2008 General Gill/Trammel Net Permits

Commercial fishermen who held valid 2006-2007 General Gill/Trammel Net Permits who have not purchased a 2007-2008 permit must do so on or before, March 31, 2008, to maintain eligibility in this fishery.

Deadline to Renew 2007-2008 California Halibut Bottom Trawl Vessel Permits

Commercial fishermen who held valid 2006-2007 California Halibut Bottom Trawl Vessel Permits who have not purchased a 2007-2008 permit, must do so on or before, March 31, 2008, to maintain eligibility in this fishery.

Applying to Transfer a Lobster Operator Permit

Beginning April 1, 2008 there is no limit on the number of Lobster Operator Permits that may be transferred each year. Commercial fishermen who wish to transfer must have a valid 2008-2009 transferable Lobster Operator Permit and must apply after March 31, 2008. Lobster Operator Permit transfer requests may not be postmarked prior to April 1, 2008.

Renewing Southern Rock Crab Trap Permits

Before a Southern Rock Crab Trap Permit can be renewed, an applicant must purchase a 2008-2009 Commercial Fishing License, 2008-2009 General Trap Permit and have possessed a valid 2007-2008 Southern Rock Crab Trap Permit.

Important! A control date of January 1, 2003, was established for the purpose of considering a future restricted access program for this fishery. Any applicant who is issued a 2008-2009 Southern Rock Crab Trap Permit is not guaranteed eligibility under any future restricted access program for this fishery that might be adopted by the Fish and Game Commission.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES AND NOTICES FOR 2008

Renewing Northern Pink Shrimp Trawl Vessel Permits

Before a Northern Pink Shrimp Trawl Vessel Permit can be renewed, the vessel owner must purchase a 2008-2009 Commercial Fishing License and a 2008-2009 Commercial Boat Registration for the qualified vessel; and have possessed a valid 2007-2008 Northern Pink Shrimp Trawl Vessel Permit. Nontransferable Northern Pink Shrimp Trawl Vessel Permits become null and void upon the death of the permit holder.

Renewing Deeper Nearshore Species Fishery Permits

Before a Deeper Nearshore Species Fishery Permit can be renewed, the applicant must purchase a 2008-2009 Commercial Fishing License and have possessed a valid 2007-2008 Deeper Nearshore Species Fishery Permit.

Important! A control date of December 31, 1999 was established for the purpose of considering a future restricted access program for this fishery. Any applicant who is issued a 2008-2009 Deeper Nearshore Species Fishery Permit is not guaranteed eligibility under any future restricted access program for this fishery that might be adopted by the Fish and Game Commission.

Renewing Market Squid Vessel Permits

Before a Market Squid Vessel Permit, Market Squid Brail Permit, or Market Squid Light Boat Permit can be renewed, the vessel owner must purchase a 2008-2009 Commercial Fishing License and a 2008-2009 Commercial Boat Registration for the qualified vessel; and have possessed a valid 2007-2008 Market Squid Vessel Permit, Market Squid Brail Permit, or Market Squid Light Boat Permit. Nontransferable Market Squid Vessel Permits, Nontransferable Market Squid Brail Permits and Nontransferable Market Squid Light Boat Permits become null and void upon the death of the permit holder.

Renewing Dungeness Crab Vessel Permits

Before a Dungeness Crab Vessel Permit can be renewed, the vessel owner must purchase a 2008-2009 Commercial Fishing License and a 2008-2009 Commercial Boat Registration for the qualified vessel; and have possessed a valid 2007-2008 Dungeness Crab Vessel Permit. A Dungeness crab vessel owner can-

not designate an agent and must purchase a Commercial Fishing License even if he/she does not intend to commercially fish during the 2008-2009 license year. Nontransferable Dungeness Crab Vessel Permits become null and void upon the death of the permit holder.

Renewing Nearshore Fishery Permits, Trap Endorsements and Bycatch Permits

Nearshore Fishery Permits

Before a Nearshore Fishery Permit can be renewed, an applicant must possess a valid 2008-2009 Commercial Fishing License and have possessed a valid 2007-2008 Nearshore Fishery Permit. Nontransferable Nearshore Fishery Permits become null and void upon the death of the permit holder.

Nearshore Fishery Trap Endorsements

Before a Nearshore Fishery Trap Endorsement can be renewed, an applicant must purchase a 2008-2009 Nearshore Fishery Permit, 2008-2009 General Trap Permit, and have possessed a valid 2007-2008 Nearshore Fishery Trap Endorsement.

Permits and endorsements can only be renewed for the regional management area and in the category (transferable or nontransferable) that they were originally issued.

Nearshore Fishery Bycatch Permits

Before a Nearshore Fishery Bycatch Permit can be renewed, an applicant must purchase a 2008-2009 Commercial Fishing License and have possessed a valid 2007-2008 Nearshore Fishery Bycatch Permit.

Renewing Spot Prawn Trap Vessel Permits

Before a Spot Prawn Trap Vessel Permit can be renewed, the vessel owner must purchase a valid 2008-2009 Commercial Fishing License and a 2008-2009 General Trap Permit, and a 2008-2009 Commercial Boat Registration for the qualified vessel; and have possessed a valid 2007-2008 Spot Prawn Trap Vessel Permit (Tier 1, Tier 2 or Tier 3).

Web Index

Department of Fish and Game: www.dfg.ca.gov
Department's Marine Region: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine
Fish and Game Commission: www.fgc.ca.gov

**2007-2008 LIMITED ENTRY AND RESTRICTED ACCESS
COMMERCIAL FISHING PERMIT RENEWAL DEADLINES**

Permit	Deadline for Receipt or Postmark of Application Without Penalty	
General Gill/Trammel Net California Halibut Bottom Trawl Vessel	March 31, 2008	The Department shall deny applications received or postmarked after March 31, 2008. Applicants applying after the March 31, 2008 deadline may appeal in writing to the Department's License and Revenue Branch.

**2008-2009 LIMITED ENTRY AND RESTRICTED ACCESS
COMMERCIAL FISHING PERMIT RENEWAL DEADLINES**

FGC Section 7852.2 was amended and changed the late fee for the following permits and endorsements:			
Permit	Deadline for Receipt or Postmark of Application Without Penalty	Late Fee Assessed	Late Fee
Deeper Nearshore Fishery Drift Gill Net Dungeness Crab Vessel Lobster Operator Market Squid Vessel Market Squid Brail Market Squid Light Boat Nearshore Fishery Nearshore Fishery Trap Endorsement Nearshore Fishery Bycatch Northern Pink Shrimp Trawl Salmon Vessel Sea Cucumber (Dive or Trawl) Spot Prawn Trap (Tier 1, 2, & 3) Southern Rock Crab	April 30, 2008	May 1, 2008 to May 30, 2008 May 31, 2008 to June 29, 2008 June 30, 2008 to March 31, 2009*	\$125.00 \$250.00 \$500.00
Sea Urchin Diving	June 30, 2008	July 1, 2008 to July 30, 2008 July 31, 2008 to August 29, 2008 August 30, 2008 to March 31, 2009*	\$125.00 \$250.00 \$500.00
Herring	October 3, 2008	October 4, 2008 to November 2, 2008 November 3, 2008 to December 3, 2008 December 4, 2008 to March 31, 2009*	\$125.00 \$250.00 \$500.00
General Gill/Trammel Net California Halibut Bottom Trawl Vessel	March 31, 2009*		

* The Department shall deny renewal applications for the above 2008-2009 permits received or postmarked after March 31, 2009. Applicants applying after the March 31, 2009 deadline may appeal in writing to the Department's License and Revenue Branch.